

years, and then in 1970, became Executive Director of the Camp Fire USA's seven-county Tejas Council.

What followed was thirty-two years of energetic service and determined leadership in her community. Pat began by conducting a community needs survey to find ways that Camp Fire could help. She established an after-school program that continues today and is now on seven campuses of the Waco Independent School District. Camp Fire has offered parenting education, conflict resolution seminars, nutritional courses and money management classes at three of the city's public housing developments. And, in 1977, the Camp Fire Activity Center opened to provide a safe place for children to go after school.

Mr. Speaker, during her tenure, Pat McKee has established partnerships with more than forty community agencies to develop programs that help young people grow into productive, contributing members of society.

She has been recognized with national Camp Fire USA awards for such innovative programs as Kids Care, Teen Leadership Waco, Teen Volunteers Center, Life Enrichment Programs and Campus Camp. Those remarkable achievements on behalf of others have not gone unnoticed elsewhere. Former Governor Ann Richards recognized Pat with the Yellow Rose of Texas Award. She is a recipient of the Community Builder Award from the Masonic Grand Lodge, and the Pathfinders Award from YWCA.

Now, after forty-four years of service, Pat has retired to rest and travel with her husband, Goodson, although everyone who knows her is certain that she will be volunteering her time to some nonprofit organization very soon.

Mr. Speaker, Pat McKee's life has defined service to others. While the Waco community is sad to see her retire, we are, at the same time, delighted for her. And, most importantly, we are all better people for having known her.

JOHN S. LAWS INSTITUTE
GRADUATION

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I join the community of Worcester, Massachusetts in celebrating the graduation of ten young adults from the Dynamy John S. Laws Institute. I would like to recognize the graduates: Lieu Chau, Jason Dobson, Samir Gandulla, Jamie Glenn, Melisa Jaquez, Ryan Novack, Jorid Topi, William Torres, Tram Trang and Jovon Turner.

The John S. Laws Institute was created over a decade ago in 1989 to aid talented low-income and culturally diverse students in the Worcester Public School System. The John S. Laws Institute is a four-year after school program designed to give students the tools they need to complete high school and succeed in college. As part of the program students take part in internships, leadership training, community service and other skill and character building exercises. Students who graduate from the institute are eligible for full scholarships from the Colleges of the Worcester Consortium. Ninety-eight percent of graduates

from the John S. Laws Institute are accepted into college.

Mr. Speaker, I commend these young adults for taking an active role in improving their education and I wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors.

GEORGE NAPOLITANO NAMED
"MAN OF THE YEAR"

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to George Napolitano, who will be honored as "Man of the Year" at the Holy Name Society Immaculate Conception Parish 10th Annual Dinner Dance. Mr. Napolitano is one of the nicest people I have ever worked with. His understated manner and sincerity make him enormously well-liked in the community.

George Napolitano was born and raised in the Little Italy section of New York City. He attended St. Patrick's Old Cathedral School and All Hallows High School before attending St. John's University.

Following his study at St. John's, Mr. Napolitano began his career in the financial sector. In 1960, however, he left the career he had begun on Wall Street to serve his country in the military. Stationed in Ft. Rucker, Alabama he was placed in charge of the Officers Payroll Department. He also coached the base's Little League team to a State Championship. Mr. Napolitano was granted an honorable discharge as Sergeant and completed an additional four years reserve training.

After his service, Mr. Napolitano returned to his career in the private sector working again in the financial district before beginning a career in real estate and insurance. Shortly thereafter he also began his career in politics. He worked as a legislative aide to Assemblyman Denis J. Butler for ten years. He currently runs my Queen office, and I am proud to have George Napolitano as a member of my staff.

Mr. Napolitano has made a lifelong commitment to community service. He is a member of the Tri-State Italian American Congress, a charter member of the Sons of Italy in Manhattan and a charter member of the Knights of Columbus where he was instrumental in coordinating the Youth Program. He is Treasurer of the Powhatan Democratic Club and Chairman of the Parents' Association of St. Vincent Ferrer High School. For his work as a Lector and Eucharist Minister and his commitment to the Holy Name Society he has been honored by the Brooklyn Diocesan Union. During his tenure as President of the Holy Name Society, the organization experienced unprecedented growth. Furthermore, he has co-chaired all ten Holy Name Society dinner dances which have raised funds for grants for graduating students. His hard work and self-less dedication has made a difference in the lives of many young people and community members.

Along with his many other commitments, Mr. Napolitano also operates his own real estate and insurance business in Queens, New York, where he lives with his wife, Carol, and their two daughters, Deana and Denise. He also has another daughter, Catherine, a son, Robert, and three lovely grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, for his many accomplishments and contributions I ask that my colleagues join me in saluting George Napolitano. He exemplifies the fine American tradition of voluntarism.

HONORING THE GIRL SCOUTS OF
AMERICA ON THEIR 90TH ANNIVERSARY
AND PAYING TRIBUTE
TO THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2002
GOLD AWARDS

HON. ROSA L. DELAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2002

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join the Connecticut's Girl Scouts, and troops nationwide, as they celebrate the 90th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America and the presentation of the Girl Scouts highest honor, the Gold Award. This tremendous organization has provided a unique and important experience to millions of young women in America and abroad.

In 1912 a group of eighteen girls assembled and, with a idea well before its socially acceptable time, Juliette Gordon Law called to order the first meeting of what has grown to become one of the most well-known and respected organizations for girls in the world. Today, the Girl Scouts can boast of a membership of just under four million young girls and adults.

The Girl Scouts organization promotes an important message for young women: that all girls should be given the opportunity to develop physically, mentally, and spiritually. Girl scouting empowers our young women to realize their full potential while making a contribution to our communities. The variety of activities and programs that they participate in teach them invaluable life lessons—lessons that they will carry with them into their adult and professional lives. Reaching beyond socioeconomic and geographic barriers, the Girl Scouts of America have touched the lives of millions of young women—many some of our nation's most vulnerable citizens. The self-confidence and determination that all Girl Scouts develop is truly invaluable.

Perhaps the most important idea that these young women take away from their girl scouting experience is the value in serving their communities. Our communities would not be the same without the efforts of those who volunteer their time and energy to its enrichment. I am always amazed at the consistency of the stories I read of our local troops actively involved in reshaping the many towns and cities of my congressional district. Whether volunteering to raise funds for a new playground or becoming mentors for other young girls, they have a direct and positive impact on our community—one of which they should all be very proud.

The Gold Award is the highest distinction earned by a Girl Scout and each of those honored today should be proud of their accomplishments. These young women have demonstrated a strong commitment to their communities through the service programs in which they have participated. This recognition reflects their hard work and dedication to the Girl Scouts and to improving the lives of their friends and neighbors.

The Girl Scouts of America have left an indelible mark on our nation as well as across